New Mexico Environment Department

Public Meeting Notice

November 16, 2005 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science,
1801 Mountain Road, SW. , Albuquerque

Middle Rio Grande Microbial Source Tracking Assessment Final Report

Environment Department Report Identifies Birds, Dogs and People as Top Contributors of Fecal Coliform Bacteria to Middle Rio Grande Watershed

- New Mexico Environment Department's Surface Water Quality Bureau
- Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA)
- Bernalillo County
- Parsons (environmental consultant)

Invite you to join us...

For a presentation and discussion of the findings of the Middle Rio Grande Microbial Source Tracking Final Report. The report is the result of a three-year study conducted by Parsons to determine the sources of bacteria in the Middle Rio Grande and its stormwater tributaries.

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See back page for full press release & graph...

New Mexico Environment Department
Surface Water Quality Bureau
Preserving, protecting, and improving New Mexico's surface water quality for present and future generations.

Full Press Release...

NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT, TO HOLD MEETING ON MIDDLE RIO GRANDE MICROBIAL SOURCE TRACKING ASSESSMENT FINAL REPORT

(Environment Department Report Identifies Birds, Dogs and People as Top Contributors of Fecal Coliform Bacteria to Middle Rio Grande Watershed)

(Santa Fe, NM) — New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED), Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB), Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA), Bernalillo County and environmental consultant Parsons are inviting the public to a meeting to discuss the findings of the Middle Rio Grande Microbial Source Tracking Final Report. The report is the result of a three-year study conducted by Parsons to determine the sources of bacteria in the Middle Rio Grande and its stormwater tributaries.

The project area is defined as Angostura Diversion on the north to the northern border of Isleta Pueblo on the south. The study contained 30 sampling stations: 22 stations to sample stormwater from contributing tributaries and arroyos, and eight sampling stations on the Rio Grande. Current and historical surface water data show fecal coliform levels above water quality standards. Although applicable fecal coliform water quality standards have been exceeded both in dry and wet weather, higher levels of bacteria are associated with rainfall and runoff from rural and urban areas. The study provides data necessary to assist water resource managers and the public in developing strategies that will restore water quality levels to recreational and ceremonial uses, established by New Mexico and Tribal water quality standards.

A public meeting will be held to summarize the information and to provide a forum for interested parties to ask questions and provide comments. The meeting will be held in Albuquerque on November 16, 2005 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science, 1801 Mountain Road, SW.

Sources of bacteria (fecal coliform) identified by ribotyping, all sites combined.